OGC 81-07803

11 September 1981

Dear Stan,

I want to apologize for the delay in responding to your request for clearance of your latest article on the AWACS. As you know, I and those charged with handling our relationship with Saudi Arabia have been greatly concerned about the reaction of the Saudi Arabian leadership that your previous article on the AWACS was a breach of trust and confidence which they had placed in you and this organization.

It's important to me for you to understand that I want to be as helpful to you as I can. I have always had the most friendly and cooperative relationships with my predecessors in the other senior posts in government which I have held. I very much want that to continue with you.

I hope that you will understand that I have no wish to inhibit you from expressing your opinion or taking a position on any issue. I am concerned only with discharging my responsibility to protect a national and institutional asset, the relationship and confidence which you helped to build with the Saudis and which I have an obligation to preserve as best as I can.

You have my assurances that the deletions which we find it necessary to require have been very carefully considered by several senior officials here from both a legal and security standpoint. I hope you will be able to accept them.

William J. Casey

Admiral Stansfield Turner, USN (Retired)

O/DCI:dq (11 Sep 81)

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1 - OGC

1 - PAB

OGC 81-07777

ll September 1981

NOTE FOR:

DCI

FROM:

Deputy General Counsel

SUBJECT:

Admiral Stansfield Turner

Attached is my Memorandum for the Record on my conversation with Admiral Turner this morning (Tab A). Attached at Tab B is my proposed letter to the Admiral. You will note that the letter reflects an agreement as to deletions (a) and (b) which is based on a conversation with Bob Ames, DC/NE/DDO, and I assume you have no objections.

...

Attachments

OGC/EM:ba (11 Sep 81)

Distribution:

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